

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**
 SECURITY INFORMATION
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

25X1A

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

CD NO.

DATE DISTR. 10 March 1953

NO. OF PAGES 1

NO. OF ENCLS.

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

COUNTRY East Germany

SUBJECT Conference on the Liquid Fuel Situation
Held at Weissensee

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF INFO. [REDACTED] 25X1C

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[REDACTED], a conference was held in Berlin-Weissensee to discuss the liquid fuel situation in East Germany. All production managers (Produktionsleiter) of SAG and VEB liquid fuel plants were invited to attend. The main problem discussed was the allocating of liquid fuel for exports and for East German internal needs. During 1952, DIA-Chemie had failed to meet its liquid fuel export schedule, and as the year drew to a close a considerable amount of liquid fuel still had to be delivered to fulfill export agreements. The Central Committee decided that the export program had to be fulfilled and that this should be done by taking over quantities of liquid fuel destined for East German domestic use.

2. Two views were represented at the meetings: Kurt Preiss, director of the Main Administration for Mineral Oils (HV Mineraloel), State Administration for Material Procurement, argued that East German needs had to be met, while (fnu) Eckhoff of DIA-Chemie favored the fulfillment of export contracts. Preiss even demanded that East Germany be allocated additional amounts of liquid fuel. He pointed out that immediately prior to the conference, the Central Committee had ordered the State Administration for Material Procurement to allocate fuel orders to various transportation agencies, particularly those delivering foodstuffs to the civilian population. Preiss argued that unless such agencies received additional amounts of fuel, the needs of East Germany would have to come from state reserves.
3. It was decided at the conference, however, to conform with the wishes of the Central Committee by assuring fulfillment of export agreements from 1952 production. It was decided that the Main Administration for Mineral Oils should meet East German needs by drawing on the state reserves.

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